

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-11 (Canceled).

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): A winding machine, comprising:

a frame, ~~comprising~~ including a barrel positioned on the frame;

at least two spindles fastened to ~~[[a]]~~ the barrel, each of the spindles being configured to support at least one cake and to be movable in rotation about a first axis substantially perpendicular to a diameter of the cake~~[[,]]~~;

at least one positioning and guidance device configured to position and guide at least one thread on the spindles, ~~and;~~

a linear actuator configured to continuously drive the spindles linearly in forward and reverse directions along the first axis during winding of the at least one thread~~[[,]]~~; and

a thread retraction device positioned above the at least one positioning and guidance device and configured to displace the at least one thread by grasping the thread and rotating between a first position, in which the at least one thread is retracted from the positioning and guidance device, and a second position, in which the at least one thread is engaged with the positioning and guidance device,

wherein the barrel is mounted movably in rotation with respect to the frame along a third axis of rotation substantially parallel to the first axis.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): The winding machine as claimed in claim 12, wherein the frame cooperates with the barrel by an indexing device configured to control a position of the barrel with respect to the frame.

Claim 14 (Previously Presented): The winding machine as claimed in claim 12, wherein the positioning and guidance device includes at least one helix mounted movably in rotation about a second axis, substantially parallel to the first axis.

Claim 15 and 16 (Canceled).

Claim 17 (Previously Presented): The winding machine as claimed in claim 12, further comprising an indexing device configured to modify continuously an angular position of the barrel with respect to the frame as a function of a variation in outside diameter of the cake, to keep a path of the thread constant between its exit point from the positioning and guidance device and its contact point on a periphery of the cake.

Claim 18 (Previously Presented): The winding machine as claimed in claim 12, further comprising a driving device configured to drive the thread or a thread drawer including at least two motor-driven rollers, the driving device being fastened to the frame of the winding machine.

Claim 19 (Currently Amended): The winding machine as claimed in claim 12, further comprising a straight ejector configured to position the ~~threads~~ thread at an end of the spindle.

Claims 20 and 21 (Canceled).

Claim 22 (Previously Presented): The winding machine as claimed in claim 12, further comprising a control and command device configured to ensure a regulation of speed

and/or of position between a primary stroke movement of the positioning and guidance device and a secondary stroke movement of at least one of the spindles.

Claim 23 (Currently Amended): A method for winding cakes, comprising:  
positioning a first spindle and a second spindle on a barrel located within a frame;  
rotating the barrel so that the first spindle is in a thread receiving position;  
grasping a thread with a thread retraction device positioned above a positioning and guidance device and rotating the thread retraction device grasping the thread between a first position, in which the thread is retracted from the positioning and guidance device, and a second position, in which the thread is engaged with the positioning and guidance device;  
rotating the first spindle having ~~[[a]]~~ the thread attached thereto around a first axis;  
guiding and positioning the thread onto the spindle with ~~[[a]]~~ the positioning and guidance device;  
driving continuously the first spindle linearly in forward and reverse directions along the first axis while the first spindle is in the thread receiving position; and  
after the driving the first spindle linearly in the forward and reverse directions, rotating the barrel so that the second spindle is in the thread receiving position.

Claim 24 (Previously Presented): The method for winding cakes as claimed in claim 23, further comprising:

modifying continuously an angular position of the barrel with respect to the frame as a function of a variation in an outside diameter of a cake formed on the first spindle, to keep a path of the thread constant between its exit point from the positioning and guidance device and its contact point on a periphery of the cake.